

Keyesville SRMA Ground Operations (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700456

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Bakersfield Field Office is requesting for operations and maintenance of the Keyesville Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The Keyesville SRMA ground operations grant request will support existing facilities and management activities within the SRMA and allow OHV activities to be more effectively managed on nearby BLM lands in the Lake Isabella area.

Ground operations within the Keyesville SRMA have historically been minimal, however for the past few years operations have steadily increased with a growing volunteer force, an increase in dedicated staff time and law enforcement patrols. Currently ground operations include; regular law enforcement and visitor service patrols; site maintenance, trail maintenance and general labor; two service contracts for restroom maintenance, and trash removal; and maintenance of a network of miscellaneous facilities including fences, vehicle barriers, kiosks and signs.

Although the level of operations within the Keyesville SRMA has been elevated over the past years, it still fails to satisfactorily address many issues in the area;

- 1). Management of the area, specifically the trail system (repair, maintenance and monitoring) and off-road visitor service patrol is hampered by the Field Office's lack of OHV equipment necessary to access the majority of the area.
- 2). The level of service for restroom facilities is often inadequate, posing potential health and safety issues for visitors and blemishing their view of the area and the BLM.
- 3). The level of service for trash removal is often inadequate, leading to widespread litter problems.
- 4). The regular visitor service patrols (principally provided by BLM volunteers) are limited to a small area within the SRMA and personnel are insufficient to address demands over Holiday weekends and special events.

The purpose of this grant request is to increase operations to a more acceptable level, provide additional visitor services and acquire equipment necessary to successfully manage OHV opportunities. Specifically funds will offset the costs of increased trash service and restroom maintenance, provide seasonal positions to increase staffing, and purchase the off-road equipment needed to fully patrol and manage the Keyesville SRMA.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The Keyesville SRMA has been a popular destination for OHV recreationalist for many years. It not only provides extensive opportunities alone, but also acts as a gateway to wider opportunities on the Sequoia National Forest.

Managed for multiple uses, Keyesville strives to provide the widest range of recreational opportunities in the Kern Valley; from dispersed camping and mountain biking to white-water rafting and recreational gold mining. At the center of these multiple uses lies over 80 miles of designated trails spread across approximately 7,000 acres. The trails themselves provide a wide variety of opportunities, from dedicated single-track to highly technical ATV routes, along with numerous easy and simple routes that provide stunning views of the river, lake and valley. The SRMA also hosts multiple OHV events, allowing motorbike trials on ten designated areas.

The northern portion of the SRMA (Keyesville North) exclusively provides the OHV opportunities. This portion of the SRMA attracts over 140,000 visitors annually (visitors are counted using a Trafx brand counter on the main access road). As with any multiple use area this visitation cannot be attributed solely to OHV recreation, however it is estimated approximately two thirds of these visitors participate in some form of off highway recreation or travel.

This grant request directly relates to OHV recreation as the majority of the facilities are located for the benefit of the OHV

recreationalists i.e. restrooms / dumpsters at the staging area, signs along trails etc. Equipment purchased and seasonal staffing will greatly increase the level of management OHV aspects of the area receive and provide for and sustain OHV opportunities in the Keyesville SRMA.

C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

The Keyesville SRMA is 7,029 acres limited to designated trails (approximately 80 miles of trail). However, the benefits of this project will extend beyond the borders of the SRMA, allowing more effective management of all OHV opportunities on BLM managed lands within the Lake Isabella region.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

The Keyesville SRMA is west of Isabella Lake and north of State Highway 178. It is divided by the Lower Kern River flowing from the Lake Isabella Dam and is crossed by State Highway 155 and Kern County's Keyesville Road. The SRMA is bounded by the Sequoia National Forest to the north, east and west. OHV opportunities are exclusively found in the northern section of the SRMA (north of the Lower Kern River).

The primary OHV opportunities are on natural surface multiple-use trails suitable for ATV, UTV and Motorbikes; limited opportunities exist of larger OHV's (4x4, dune buggy etc.). Some of the trails have been designated single-track providing OHV opportunities solely for motorcycles. The SRMA also allows motorcycle trial activities at ten designated locations associated with a Special Recreation Permit.

Trail opportunities range from simple to technically advance and cover a range of landscapes from low rolling hills to steep climbs and rugged terrain.

Approximately 80 miles of designated route occur within the SRMA; however the area provides a gateway to a larger trail system within the Sequoia National Forest.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

- (a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

Additional Documentation

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

3 **Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[Keyesville SRMA - Facility Map](#)

[Keyesville SRMA - Area Map](#)

4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: BLM - Bakersfield Field Office
Application: Keyesville SRMA Ground Operations (FINAL)

2/25/2010

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____				
APPLICANT NAME :	BLM - Bakersfield Field Office						
PROJECT TITLE :	Keyesville SRMA Ground Operations (FINAL)	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-01-03-G01				
PROJECT TYPE :	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Development</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Planning</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Restoration</div> </div>						
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Bakersfield Field Office is requesting for operations and maintenance of the Keyesville Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The Keyesville SRMA ground operations grant request will support existing facilities and management activities within the SRMA and allow OHV activities to be more effectively managed on nearby BLM lands in the Lake Isabella area.</p> <p>Ground operations within the Keyesville SRMA have historically been minimal, however for the past few years operations have steadily increased with a growing volunteer force, an increase in dedicated staff time and law enforcement patrols. Currently ground operations include; regular law enforcement and visitor service patrols; site maintenance, trail maintenance and general labor; two service contracts for restroom maintenance, and trash removal; and maintenance of a network of miscellaneous facilities including fences, vehicle barriers, kiosks and signs.</p> <p>Although the level of operations within the Keyesville SRMA has been elevated over the past years, it still fails to satisfactorily address many issues in the area;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1). Management of the area, specifically the trail system (repair, maintenance and monitoring) and off-road visitor service patrol is hampered by the Field Office's lack of OHV equipment necessary to access the majority of the area. 2). The level of service for restroom facilities is often inadequate, posing potential health and safety issues for visitors and blemishing their view of the area and the BLM. 3). The level of service for trash removal is often inadequate, leading to widespread litter problems. 4). The regular visitor service patrols (principally provided by BLM volunteers) are limited to a small area within the SRMA and personnel are insufficient to address demands over Holiday weekends and special events. <p>The purpose of this grant request is to increase operations to a more acceptable level, provide additional visitor services and acquire equipment necessary to successfully manage OHV opportunities. Specifically funds will offset the costs of increased trash service and restroom maintenance, provide seasonal positions to increase staffing, and purchase the off-road equipment needed to fully patrol and manage the Keyesville SRMA.</p>						
	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
1	Staff						
	Other-Outdoor Recreation Planner	300.000	53.000	HRS	0.00	15,900.00	15,900.00
	Maintenance Worker	300.000	38.000	HRS	0.00	11,400.00	11,400.00
	Other-Visitor Services Volunteer	3500.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	70,000.00	70,000.00
	Other-Seasonal Park Ranger / Maintenance	1040.000	28.000	HRS	19,120.00	10,000.00	29,120.00
	Total for Staff				19,120.00	107,300.00	126,420.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-Trash Service	104.000	50.000	EA	5,200.00	0.00	5,200.00
	Other-Restroom Pumping / Service	16.000	240.000	EA	3,840.00	0.00	3,840.00
	Portable Restroom Rentals	72.000	130.000	EA	0.00	9,360.00	9,360.00
	Total for Contracts				9,040.00	9,360.00	18,400.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Trash Bags	5000.000	0.400	EA	1,500.00	500.00	2,000.00
	Other-OHV Personal Safety Equip.	2.000	500.000	EA	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Janitorial	1.000	2000.000	MISC	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Other-Trafx Trail Counters	3.000	400.000	EA	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				3,700.00	2,500.00	6,200.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-FTE ORP Vehicle	200.000	40.000	DAY	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
	Other-Seasonal Vehicle	100.000	40.000	DAY	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	Other-FTE Maint. Vehicle	100.000	40.000	DAY	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				4,000.00	12,000.00	16,000.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-OHV (ATV / Motorcycle) Notes : Response to public comment: Ground Operations includes Visitor Service Patrols (non-enforcement), route condition assessments, route signing, trash pick-up etc, on both single track and ATV trails unsuitable for larger vehicles. Use of 4x4 trucks in these areas would impact the quality and challenge of these routes (i.e. making them wider). The BLM has experienced ATV and Motorcycle riders to use such equipment. The staff members personal experience is augmented by BLM training and additional training requested within this grant.	2.000	7500.000	EA	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
	Other-OHV Enclosed Trailer	1.000	3000.000	EA	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	Other-GPS Unit - Trimble YUMA Notes : Response to Public Comment: An advanced GPS unit allows better in-the-field tracking of route conditions, route proliferation issues and trail maintenance needs. This advanced unit also interfaces with existing visitor counters to collect a variety of OHV use information.	1.000	3750.000	EA	3,750.00	0.00	3,750.00
	Total for Equipment Purchases				21,750.00	0.00	21,750.00
6	Others						
	Other-ATV / Motorcycle Training Notes : Response to Public Comment: This cost includes travel and per-diem rates to attend Department of Interior approved ATV/Motorcycle Training.	2.000	1000.000	EA	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
7	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-Admin - Management Oversi	40.000	65.000	HRS	0.00	2,600.00	2,600.00
	Indirect Costs-Admin - Budget / HR	40.000	40.000	HRS	0.00	1,600.00	1,600.00

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2/25/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Total for Indirect Costs				0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
Total Program Expenses					58,610.00	136,360.00	194,970.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					58,610.00	136,360.00	194,970.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					58,610.00	136,360.00	194,970.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: BLM - Bakersfield Field Office
Application: Keyesville SRMA Ground Operations (FINAL)

2/25/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	19,120.00	107,300.00	126,420.00	
2	Contracts	9,040.00	9,360.00	18,400.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	3,700.00	2,500.00	6,200.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	4,000.00	12,000.00	16,000.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	21,750.00	0.00	21,750.00	
6	Others	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00	
Total Program Expenses		58,610.00	136,360.00	194,970.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		58,610.00	136,360.00	194,970.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		58,610.00	136,360.00	194,970.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

The ground operations within the Keyesville SRMA for which this grant is being requested do not meet the CEQA definition of a 'project' as established within CEQA Guidelines Section 15378. The proposed activities for which the grant is being requested do not constitute ground disturbing actions and do not have potential for resulting in either direct physical change in the environment or reasonably foreseeable indirect impacts.

The Bakersfield Field Office is requesting assistance with labor, supplies, equipment and contracts in order to continue general maintenance and visitor services within the Keyesville SRMA.

ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Evaluation Criteria

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 5

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☒ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☐ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
☒ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
☐ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
☐ Potential trespass (2 points)
☒ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Loss of OHV Opportunity: Failure to provide the general maintenance of the facilities and visitors services facilitated by this grant would reduce the level of service to the OHV community and limit opportunities only to those manageable without grant funding. In addition failure to provide these visitor services would diminish the agency's ability to educate OHV users to the rules and regulations and appropriate behavior (tread-lightly/leave-no-trace programs) to ensure continued opportunities.

Negative Impact to Cultural Sites: Failure to provide the visitor services i.e. OHV Patrol, Seasonal Park Ranger which are facilitated by this grant would limit the agency's ability to patrol and monitor important historical sites within the Keyesville SRMA (historic mines/mining facilities) for impacts from OHV activities; many of these sites are intersected by OHV trails or the resulting destination of such trails.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 10

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
☒ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
☐ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
☒ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
☒ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Maintaining Road or Trail Tread/Installing or Repairing Erosion Control Features: Although the grant proposal does not directly speak to these items, the additional staff, materials and equipment would sustain OHV opportunity by allowing the monitoring, condition evaluation and maintenance of trails; which without specialized off-road equipment are current inaccessible.

Maintaining Multi-Use: Visitor services provided onsite aid in the preservation of a multi-use trail system through public education concerning the opportunities within the Keyesville SRMA. In addition equipment and staffing provided through this grant would be used to actively review and maintain existing signage pertaining to trail use.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☒ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The grant proposal was developed after consultation with several user groups including Stewards of the Sequoia and CORVA, in addition to considering feedback from interested stakeholders (property owners within the Keyesville SRMA) and various public comments that have been received regarding management of the area.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 2

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 4 or more (4 points) ☒ 2 to 3 (2 points)
☐ 1 (1 point) ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Stewards of the Sequoia, Southern Sierra Fat Tire Association

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 4

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
☒ Protecting water quality (1 point)
☐ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
☐ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
☐ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
☒ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
☒ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
☐ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

Maintaining Physical Barriers to OHV Use: Staff and equipment provided through this grant would be responsible for the maintenance of existing barriers including those developed in conjunctions with a 2006 OHMVR Division grant.

Protecting Water Quality: Staff and equipment provided through the grant would aid in the enforcement of an area along the Lower Kern River which is currently closed to OHV use to protect water quality.

Provide Sanitary Facilities: The grant provides for contracts to maintain existing facilities and to provide staff to increase the service level of these facilities.

Protect Cultural Sites: The grant will provide for regular OHV patrols of important historic mines and other cultural sites. Increased monitoring should ensure these sites are better protected. In addition increased staff presence will allow for more on-the-spot interpretation and education with regard to cultural resources.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 1

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- ☐ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
- ☐ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- ☐ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point) [Janitorial Supplies]

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 0

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ No (No points) ☐ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Birding |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) [White-Water Rafting, Recreational Gold Mining] | |

